

the general biology of this species by G. R. Buckingham and C. A. Bennett., (1981, *Ann. Entomol. Soc. Amer.* 74: 451-458.).

This adaptation in *Hypera rumicis* is interesting and rather intriguing as it is a weevil which is not usually associated with aquatic habitats or found in really damp situations.

In my experience of the species in West Cumbria I nearly always find it on Curled Dock, *Rumex crispus* L., and to a lesser extent on Broad leaved dock, *R. obtusifolius* L. where the plants grow in comparatively dry habitats and away from water. However, it is interesting to note that *H. rumicis* is known to feed and develop on the Great Water Dock, *Rumex hydrolapathum* Huds., so it would be very worthwhile to discover if the same swimming ability is also developed in individuals colonising this plant as well.

Swimming in certain species of Curculionidae is not uncommon, and a number of members in the subfamily Ceuthorhynchinae are known to be well adapted for a semi-aquatic life. One example is *Eubrychius velutus* (Beck) which is known to possess a very efficient plastron respiration system as described by W. R. Thorpe and D. J. Crisp, (1949, *J. exp. Biol.* 26: 219-260) and this adaption enables the adults to stay submerged for long periods.

At the same time as I tested *H. rumicis* for swimming I also experimented with three other members of the genus, *H. dauci* (Olivier), *H. nigrirostris* (Fabricius) and *H. plantaginis* (Degeer). When these species were placed in water they made no attempt to perform any recognizable swimming stroke, but just merely floundered about in the water.

This would appear to be the first recorded observation on the swimming behaviour in *H. rumicis* and also the first on a member of the subfamily *Hyperinae*. — R. W. J. READ, 43 Holly Terrace, Hensingham, Whitehaven, Cumbria, CA28 8RF.

THE USE OF THE TERM 'POCK-MARK' IN ENTOMOLOGY. — Subscribers with a medical background will have been interested in Mr. Chalmers-Hunt's note in the March/April 1982 issue of the *Record*.

I wonder if they, as I, have searched unsuccessfully for cases of *Coleophora varicella* (sic.) on the bodies of their patients who have previously suffered from chickenpox? — DR. J. R. LANGMAID, 38 Cumberland Court, Festing Road, Southsea, Hants PO4 ONH.

SENTA FLAMMEA CURTIS (THE FLAME WAINSCOT) AT WYE, KENT. — Two *Senta flammea* appeared on separate nights in early June 1982, in the trap I run at Wye College. Since a number of other migrant species were appearing at the same time, I assumed that the *S. flammea* had arrived from France on the southerly winds which had been blowing for several days. However, when a *Mythimna obsoleta* Hbn. also appeared, and bearing in mind that two *Arenostola phragmitidis* Hbn. had turned up the previous summer, I began to suspect that these *Phragmites* feeders might be of local origin, and therefore sugared and ran a Heath trap in the largest reed bed in the area. I was rewarded by finding six *flammea* and five *M. obsoleta* (one at sugar, the rest at light). So it seems rather likely that both species exist as breeding populations in the Wye area. — M. A. ENFIELD,